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ABSTRACT

This document is a supplement to the first edition of the Long-Range Program for Library Development in Mississippi (ED 070 483) which was issued in June 1972. The original document outlined a comprehensive program covering the five fiscal years 1973 through 1977, for step-by-step development of library service adequate to meet the needs of the people of the state. As the first fiscal year of the plan approached its end on June 30, 1973, a review was made. It was concluded that the four main goals and most of the balance of the Program were valid as originally written, but that the time table for implementation should be extended over the next five years instead of four. A supplement to be used together with the original document rather than a new edition superseding it would be appropriate for showing the needed changes and adding the limited amount of new material. Most of the changes concern target dates which are shifted ahead in the supplement. For convenience in referral to the original plan while reading the supplement, page references to the 1972 document are shown in the left hand margin of the supplement. (Author/SL)

ED 087402

LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN MISSISSIPPI

SUPPLEMENT JUNE 1973

PREPARED BY THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION

IR 000 142

ED 087402

LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN MISSISSIPPI

A COMPREHENSIVE FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM FOR MEETING THE LIBRARY NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF MISSISSIPPI.

SUPPLEMENT
JUNE 1973

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INTRODUCTION

A year has passed since the first edition of the Long-Range Program for Library Development in Mississippi was issued in June, 1972. This document outlined a comprehensive program covering the five fiscal years, 1973 through 1977, for step-by-step development of library service adequate to meet the needs of the people of the state.

As the first fiscal year approached its end on June 30, 1973, four main tasks needed to be completed:

1. A review of the accomplishments and failures of Fiscal 1973 in implementing the Program.
2. Consideration of relevant new data, ideas, and opportunities.
3. Revision of the Program for the remaining four years, 1974 through 1977, as needed.
4. Extension of the Program forward through Fiscal 1978 to keep five years of planning in view.

DECISION TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENT

It was concluded from (1) and (2) above that the four main goals and most of the balance of the Program were still valid as originally written, but that the time table for implementation should be extended over the next five years instead of four. A supplement to be used together with the original document rather than a new edition superseding it would be appropriate for showing the needed changes and adding the limited amount of new material. Most of the changes concern target dates which are shifted ahead in the supplement. The need to do this arises because a majority of the 1973 target dates were not met. A major reason was the substantial discrepancy between the amount of LSCA funds anticipated and the amount actually released for use in carrying out the Program in Fiscal 1973.

PREPARATION PROCESS

Continuing the practice followed in preparing the 1972 edition, activities were iniated and groups and individuals consulted in 1973 for the purpose of stimulating and utilizing the ideas and knowledge of librarians, trustees and others throughout the state, representing different types and sizes of libraries and the varying needs

of the public. However, a full updating of statistical data concerning current resources in relation to needs has been saved until Fiscal 1974 after reports from the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey covering all types of libraries are available as well as the usual annual reports made by public libraries to the Library Commission.

Mississippi Library Association participation:

1. MLA convention, October 1972: At its annual convention the Mississippi Library Association considered the report of its Special Committee, Long Range Program for Library Development in Mississippi. This committee met in September, 1972, to discuss the recommendations. The Association endorsed the Program with one exception, sub-goal II (goal I), "To develop and adopt standards for state and local public library systems, based upon the ALA Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966, adapted to Mississippi needs." This sub-goal was not approved, when a number of librarians at the convention expressed concern that an adapted version would mean standards for Mississippi fall far short of the level of service intended in the ALA standards. They insisted that Mississippi libraries could and should meet the ALA standards in full and should not set their sights on any lesser "standards." This sub-goal is therefore revised in the supplement (see p. 6).
2. MLA Special Committee: A special committee of the Mississippi Library Association was appointed "to promote the long range plan of library services in Mississippi." Its twelve members include a public library trustee, representatives from the Mississippi Library Commission and State Department of Education, and librarians from public, college, university, high school, and special libraries. (See Mississippi Library News, March 1973, p.47, for a list of the members and their library affiliations) The special committee met in September, 1972, and again for two days, May 1-2, 1973, in a joint session with the State Advisory Council to review the progress made in implementation of the Program and to make recommendations for the future.

3. MLA regional meetings: Five of the six Mississippi Library Association regional meetings, which were held in 1973 as usual in addition to the annual convention, featured the Long-Range Program. The regions were: Central East, Central West, Northeast, Southeast, and Southwest. Each meeting included a talk about the Program by the Library Commission Assistant Director for Library Development and panel and/or other discussion, yielding additional insight into the reactions of librarians and trustees around the state as well as suggestions for future planning. The Northwest regional meeting did not follow suit due to prior program plans urgent for that area at the time. Approximately 300 librarians and trustees participated in the five regional meetings.

State Advisory Council for the Library Services and Construction Act:

The Advisory Council met for two days on April 5-6, 1973. It met again for two days on May 1-2, 1973, this time in joint session with the MLA Special Committee. Members of the Library Commission staff reported on progress to date in implementing the Program, including the results of evaluation activities. The Council and the Special Committee reviewed the goals, objectives, and target dates in the light of the current situation and made recommendations for the future, which were utilized in preparing this supplement.

ORGANIZATION AND USE OF THE SUPPLEMENT

Chapters VI, VII, VIII, and IX of the 1972 document contain the actual substance of the Long-Range Program, organized under the four main goals, one per chapter. Changes and additions are organized in the same way in the following pages of the supplement, together with information concerning progress or lack of progress in implementing the Program to date.

The 1972 document should be referred to as the supplement is read in order to understand the revised and new material in full context. For convenience in doing this, page references to the 1972 document are shown in the left hand margin of the supplement.

CHAPTER VI

PROGRAMS FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

GOAL 1: To promote and to aid the development of adequate library service throughout Mississippi to meet the general and specialized needs of all its residents.

* * * \

Meanwhile, a nationally known library consultant has been employed to come to Mississippi in Fiscal 1974 for the purpose of reviewing the Long-Range Program, including the proposals for the statewide study and the self-studies by local public libraries, conferring with the Library Commission, the Advisory Council, and others and making recommendations. The consultant is planning two visits of a few days each, one in August and the other in September, 1973, before the October 1973 convention of the Mississippi Library Association. The resulting recommendations will be reflected in the next annual revision of or supplement to the Program. They may also affect activities in Fiscal 1974 in ways that cannot be predicted at this point.

Target Date: Comprehensive study postponed indefinitely from Fiscal 1974.

pp. 69-71 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL I, GOAL I):

Self-studies by all the public libraries of the state of their services in relation to the actual and potential needs of their service areas, assisted and coordinated by the Library Commission.

This program was not carried out in Fiscal 1973 as hoped. The Library Commission did not have the staff and funds to provide the assistance required for studies so organized and coordinated as to permit valid statewide analysis and conclusions. The self-studies are considered even more important now with the indefinite postponement of the proposed comprehensive study by an outside consultant. In any case they are needed as the basis for development of local long-range programs, not only at the beginning of such planning but at regular intervals thereafter to keep planning in tune with current and projected needs and opportunities.

Target Date: Fiscal 1974-1975 (postponed from Fiscal 1973)

pp. 71-72 SUB-GOAL II (GOAL I):

To develop and adopt standards for state and local public library systems, based upon the ALA Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966, adapted to Mississippi needs.

As previously mentioned (see p. 2), the Mississippi Library Association endorsed the Long-Range Program at its 1972 convention with the exception of this sub-goal.

Nevertheless, the need for more specific guidelines than the ALA standards for identifying adequate levels of service in Mississippi and for practical benchmarks which could be used to measure progress toward them is still felt by many librarians, trustees, and public officials.

Such guidelines and benchmarks are especially needed for the proposed self-studies and for the demonstration of "adequate service" in a cooperative library district (Objective II, Sub-goal III, Goal I).

The Public Library Section of the Mississippi Library Association plans to re-open the question of state standards for public libraries for discussion at the Association's convention in October 1973.

Meanwhile, the wording of Sub-goal II (Goal I) is now revised as follows, to be more in keeping with its real intent and anticipated uses:

SUB-GOAL II (GOAL I): (Revised form)

To develop and adopt guidelines for identifying adequate public library service and benchmarks for measuring progress toward it, consistent with the current ALA minimum standards for public library systems, but as specific as feasible and meaningful to Mississippi.

The current ALA standards are stated in ALA's Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966. However, they are in the process of revision. Any guidelines and benchmarks adopted for Mississippi should be revised so as to be consistent with the new ALA standards when these are available.

Target Date: October 1974 (postponed from October 1973)

SUB-GOAL III (GOAL I): Continued as in 1972 document

pp. 76-82 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL I):

To adopt the boundaries of the ten Mississippi Planning and Development Districts as the boundaries of the library service areas in the comprehensive statewide plan. (With one exception: division of the Southern PDD into two library districts, making a total of eleven library districts).

The plan to develop library service in the state so that it will be cooperatively organized into eleven district service areas bounded as stated has been endorsed by the Advisory Council and MLA Special Committee and by the Mississippi Library Association (through its general endorsement of the Long-Range Program in 1972) as at least an ideal toward which to work.

This is not to say, however, that each library administrator and trustee sees this as a practical objective for achievement by his library in the forseeable future. The situation as sensed by the Library Commission staff in meetings with librarians and trustees over the state and in consultant work is that achievement of this objective is likely to be a slow process in most districts, involving gradually increasing cooperation among libraries varying in kind and amount from district to district.

The following are some examples of such progress in Fiscal 1973:

1. The Jackson Municipal Library and the Capital Area Regional Library merged under a mutual contract providing for total service in the combined area to be rendered through one combined library system. The resulting Jackson Metropolitan Library System now serves all of four counties in the Central District: Hinds, Scott, Simpson, and Smith. Discussions are under way with libraries serving the remaining Central District counties, Copiah, Madison, Rankin, Warren, and Yazoo, concerning the pros and cons of also becoming affiliated with the metropolitan area system. Results cannot be predicted at this writing.
2. The county libraries serving Jefferson Davis and Marion Counties in the Southern District merged in Fiscal 1973 to form a two-county regional library system.
3. Four library systems in the Southwest District, Pike-Amite, Lincoln-Lawrence-Franklin, Copiah-Jefferson, and Wilkinson, entered into a reciprocal service agreement covering eight of the ten counties in

the district. Library cards issued by any participating library are now honored throughout these counties, with all library privileges being extended to card holders.

The 1972 document anticipated that the Northeast Regional Library serving Alcorn, Benton, Prentiss, Tippah, and Tishomingo Counties, and the Marshall County Library might decide to merge in Fiscal 1973 to form one regional library system covering the Northeast District, making it the first in the state to have complete district service. The two library systems discussed the proposals but a merger agreement was not achieved and negotiations are suspended at this writing. The following target date is therefore changed:

p. 82 Target Date (Northeast District): Indefinite (changed from Fiscal 1973)

pp. 86-88 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL I):

To sponsor and aid a demonstration of cooperative public library service in one of the proposed library districts, meeting or as nearly as possible meeting the standards adopted for Mississippi.

Whether or not "standards" are adopted for Mississippi public library systems, some criteria more specific than the ALA standards will need to be developed defining the scope and level of service to be demonstrated. Work to this end is planned for Fiscal 1974.

Also, some thought has been given to the possibility of limiting the scope of the demonstration, for example, to information and referral services on a district-wide basis, designed especially although not exclusively to meet the needs of the aged, disadvantaged, and physically handicapped, and to be rendered in cooperation with other agencies and organizations concerned with service to these groups such as the Mississippi Council on Aging. Even though focused upon one type of service, e.g. information and referral, such a program could probably be designed to include virtually all of the basic elements needed to demonstrate the practical potential of more general district-wide service. These elements would

include establishment of a resource and service center, outreach activities both on a cooperative district-wide basis and through the various library units in the district, and the necessary legal and structural organization required for cooperative operation district services. At this writing the proposal for a total service demonstration stands, but alternatives will be explored in Fiscal 1974.

p. 88 Target Dates: All target dates for the demonstration are moved forward one year, the range now extending from Fiscal 1974 through Fiscal 1978.

pp. 88-91 OBJECTIVE III (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL I):

To reach a minimum of $5 per capita for support of local public libraries throughout Mississippi.

Target dates listed on p. 92 and p. 94 stand. Counties and cities are planning budgets and tax levies now for their next fiscal year, which begins October 1, 1973. The status of the Fiscal 1974 millage target will be determined then.

pp. 94-95 OBJECTIVE IV (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL I):

To have adequate staff in all of the state's public libraries: at least one professional and two clerical workers for every 6,000 population served.

The state Personnel Grants Program funded by the state legislature for Fiscal 1973 and again for Fiscal 1974 (and expected to be a permanent program) has made substantial improvement possible in the ratios of both professional and clerical workers to population served. Payment by the state of the salaries of one professional per 25,000 population served by qualifying libraries has resulted in employment of more professionals and has also released some local funds for employment of needed clerical workers. Progress toward staff adequacy will be analyzed and data in the Long-Range Program updated after October, 1974, when the public library annual reports for Fiscal 1973 will be in hand. (Reports from the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey will provide information about staff in al

types of libraries) The target date, Fiscal 1977, for having at least two-thirds of the number needed in each group still stands.

p.95 OBJECTIVE V (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL I):

To obtain the additional library facilities needed and to improve the quality of present facilities.

The receipt of no LSCA Title II funds in Fiscal 1973 substantially curtailed that year's building program as projected in the 1972 document and the future of the entire building program is uncertain.

The Construction Department of the Library Commission gave much time in Fiscal 1973 to exploration of alternate sources of funds to help local communities build and improve urgently needed library facilities. Success was mixed.

The current status of the library facilities program is shown on pp. 22-23.

pp. 96-97 OBJECTIVE VI (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL I):

To make a high level of resources and information services available locally to all residents through development of district resource and service centers supplementing and coordinating adequate community resources throughout the district.

The planned fall 1973 review of the annual reports of public libraries and the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey reports will update the data in the Long-Range Program on materials in public libraries and add information on materials in other types of libraries.

p. 97 The target dates listed are moved forward one year, becoming Fiscal 1975 through 1977.

pp. 98-99 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To develop and coordinate through the Library Commission a comprehensive plan for building and using the total library resources of the state.

Target Date for Completing Plan: Fiscal 1975 (postponed from June 30, 1973)

While the above plan was not completed in Fiscal 1973 as proposed in the 1972 edition of the Long-Range Program, progress was made as follows:

1. The position of Coordinator of Resources Development was established

on the staff of the Library Commission, effective Fiscal 1974. The incumbent will work with other libraries and information agencies throughout the state, but especially those in the Capital area to the end that selection of materials for the Library Commission collection will be coordinated with the acquisitions of other libraries and will emphasize those materials needed in the state and not otherwise available. The new position will be a key position in the state agency for the gradual achievement of this objective. The chart on p. 20 shows the relationship of this position to the new organizational structure of the Library Commission.

2. The Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey now in progress is expected to provide much information relevant to development of this plan. We shall have current information about the size, location, and general nature of collections in all types of libraries in the state. We shall also have the results of analysis of Mississippi data in relation to data from other states with probable recommendations coming out of the survey for regional cooperation in building and using resources. These will be important considerations in developing the state's own plan.

3. Discussion of a program for building and using a joint film collection is in progress involving public libraries of the state and the Library Commission.

p.99 SUB-OBJECTIVE I (OBJECTIVE I, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To add to the staff of the Library Commission a new position, Assistant Director in charge of public service, with responsibility for planning and coordinating library services at the state level.

This position was not filled in Fiscal 1973 as planned. It is included again in the Fiscal 1974 budget of the Library Commission and recruitment is in progress. The title of the position, however, is now changed from Assistant Director of Public Service to Assistant Director of Library Operations.

This sub-objective is restated below with the revised wording:

SUB-OBJECTIVE 4 (OBJECTIVE I, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I): Revised wording:

To add to the staff of the Library Commission a new position, Assistant Director in charge of library operations, with responsibility for planning and coordinating library services at the state level.

The relationship of this position to the new organizational structure of the Library Commission is shown in the chart on p. 20.

Target Date: Fiscal 1974 (postponed from 1973)

pp. 99-100 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To develop effective and current information and referral services relevant to the daily problems and concerns of all residents of the state.

Interest in this objective and the activities required to implement it has mounted among Mississippi librarians in Fiscal 1973 at both the state and local levels. The potential importance of information and referral services through public libraries is recognized much more widely today than a year ago, due both to serious soul searching concerning the meaning of public library service in society today and tomorrow and to the exciting reports of new information and referral programs in libraries in many parts of the country.

The Library Commission and a number of interested librarians in the state, in cooperation with social service agencies, the Mississippi Council on Aging, Planning and Development District personnel, and other groups have worked on several proposals with the expectation that one or more can be implemented, at least on a demonstration basis, beginning in Fiscal 1974. Activities toward this objective in Fiscal 1973 included:

1. Designation of a new position, Information and Referral Services Consultant, to be added to the staff of the Library Commission to strengthen the back-up ability of the state agency in this field and to encourage and assist development of effective current information and referral services in local libraries, particularly through district-wide cooperative effort. The relationship of the position to the new

organizational structure of the Library Commission is shown in the chart on p. 20.

Target Date (for filling new position): Fiscal 1974-1976

2. Planning has begun for a special workshop on information and referral services for public library administrators in Fiscal 1974. The workshop will be sponsored by the Workshop Committee, Public Library Section, Mississippi Library Association, and the Library Commission. Target Date (for workshop): January 1974

3. The Library Commission, in cooperation with the Bolivar and Sunflower County Libraries, submitted a proposal in December, 1972, to the U.S. Office of Education entitled: A Proposal to Design and Demonstrate Public Library Information and Referral Service to the Disadvantaged in a Predominantly Rural Area. A two year project, it requested assistance from federal funds in the amount of $90,000 for the first year and $70,000 for the second year, or a total of $160,000. A decision on this application has not been received to date. If the demonstration should be carried out successfully in Bolivar and Sunflower Counties, it is anticipated that the service will be continued thereafter with local and state funds and, hopefully, expanded to serve all six counties of the South Delta District through a cooperative agreement among the libraries in the district and other participating agencies.

4. The Bolivar County Library submitted a proposal on May 30, 1973 to the Area Agency on Aging of the South Delta Planning and Development District entitled: A Proposal to Design and Demonstrate Public Library Informational and Referral Service in Bolivar County with the Target Group those Citizens over Sixty Years of Age. The proposal seeks financial assistance in the amount of $15,000 from the Mississippi Council on Aging, channeled through the area agency. The Library

Commission would supply state level back-up information and referral service, assistance in kind, and consultant service. A decision on this application has not been received to date.

5. The Kemper-Newton Library System submitted a proposal with a similar objective to its area agency on aging (East Central District), which has been accepted for funding assistance. This project will serve all nine counties of the East Central District. The Library Commission will cooperate and assist as needed and desired in this project with back-up information and referral service, aid in kind, consultation, etc.

6. A proposal is in the discussion stage calling for the Library Commission to administer a demonstration of information and referral service to older Americans (sixty years of age and over) funded 75% the first year and 60% the second through the Mississippi Council on Aging. Three of the six counties in the South Delta District would be served in this demonstration, Bolivar, Sunflower, and Washington. This project would supercede the similar Bolivar County project described above and include the service proposed in the latter. It would involve cooperation with the three county library systems and the municipal library (Indianola) in the area and social service and other agencies. If it should be funded and if the proposal for information and referral service to the disadvantaged in the same area should also be funded, the two could be coordinated so that each project would strengthen the other, hastening the day when the real objective--effective information and referral service through the public libraries of the district to all persons--can be achieved in full scope.

p. 100 SUB-OBJECTIVE I (OBJECTIVE II, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To identify the actual and potential needs of all segments of the population for such information and referral services through libraries.

It is anticipated that the proposed self-studies by public libraries, now projected for Fiscal 1974-1975, will help to provide this type of

information over the state. Local information and referral service projects such as those proposed above will endeavor to identify such needs locally.

Target Date: Fiscal 1974-1975 (postponed from Fiscal 1973)

p. 100 SUB-OBJECTIVE II (OBJECTIVE II, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

A continuing objective.

pp. 100-101 SUB-OBJECTIVE III (OBJECTIVE II, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To explore at the state level, through the Library Commission, the possibility of a current information system, up-dated daily, perhaps computerized, to back up local and district information inventory activities.

Filling of the new position Information and Referral Services Consultant, hopefully in Fiscal 1974, will be a step toward achievement of this objective. The system will probably be manual at first, computerized later when feasible.

p. 101 SUB-OBJECTIVE IV (OBJECTIVE II, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To prepare a manual on operation of current information and referral services, including the above guidelines, to assist local and district libraries.

Target Date: Fiscal 1975 (postponed from Fiscal 1974)

p. 101 SUB-OBJECTIVE V (OBJECTIVE II, SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To demonstrate current information and referral services as a project within the proposed demonstration of cooperative district service.

Target Date: Begin in Fiscal 1975, Continue Through Fiscal 1978 (instead of 1974 through 1977)

pp. 101-102 OBJECTIVES III and IV (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

Continued as in 1972.

p. 102 OBJECTIVE V (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To evaluate the present statewide telephone and teletype reference service project and to expand and/or modify it accordingly.

A study of this project was begun in Fiscal 1973 by the Reference Department of the Library Commission, assisted by staff of the Library Development Division, and preliminary findings were reported to the Advisory Council at its May 1973 meeting. The project will be continued in Fiscal 1974 as described in the 1974 Annual Program. The evaluative study will also be continued in Fiscal 1974.

Target Date for Evaluation: Complete in Fiscal 1974 (postponed from 1973)

pp.102-103 OBJECTIVE VI (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To evaluate the Library Commission's Centralized Processing Center, expand and/or modify its services to libraries and to state institutions and departments, and, through these activities, to improve bibliographic access to the various state resources.

The Head of the Center began a study of its operations in Fiscal 1973 and reported preliminary findings to the Advisory Council at its May 1973 meeting. The evaluation will be continued in Fiscal 1974. Meanwhile the Center will be operated along the same general lines as at present.

Target Date for Evaluation: Complete in Fiscal 1974 (postponed from 1973)

pp.104-105 OBJECTIVE VII (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To promote and assist cooperation between public and school libraries in development and in service.

This continues to be an important objective. However, according to current decision, the proposed new position of consultant for work with children and young people will be added to the Library Commission consultant staff eventually, but not by 1976. Higher priority has been assigned at this point to other proposed new positions. This decision should be carefully reviewed as time goes on because of the great importance of work with children and young people and because close cooperation between school and public libraries is essential to total community and district service as envisioned in the Long-Range Program. Effective consultant service and assistance in this field by the Mississippi Library Commission are long overdue and may deserve higher priority than presently assigned.

pp.105-106 OBJECTIVE VIII (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I):

To promote and assist cooperation between colleges and universities, their libraries, and public libraries.

Since this section of the Program was written, interest in college, university, and public library cooperation has mounted and taken new directions. For example, librarians of the state are reading and talking about the many types of external degree programs now being offered by colleges, in which public libraries serve as information, resource, and

study centers. For a different example, Delta State University in Bolivar County has offered assistance to the public library information and referral projects proposed for the South Delta area, including staff training and evaluation services.

Plans for cooperative building and use of resources continue and beginning steps are being taken, a very important one being the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey.

Target dates for the suggested experimental project involving college and public library collaboration within the proposed demonstration of district service are changed as follows:

Target Dates:

Study and Planning: Fiscal 1974-1975 (postponed from 1973-1974)

Project in Action: Fiscal 1976-1978 (postponed from 1975-1977)

CHAPTER VII

LIBRARY FUNCTIONS AT THE STATE LEVEL

GOAL II: To develop and support at the state level a strong administrative agency that can fulfill a role of leadership in planning, evaluating, assisting, and coordinating total library development in Mississippi as is required to meet the needs of the people.

* *

pp.109-111 The goals and objectives on these pages are continued.

p. 112 SUB-OBJECTIVE II (OBJECTIVE IV, SUB-GOAL I, GOAL II):

To employ at the state level someone qualified, through special training in evaluation methods, to coordinate a statewide system of effective evaluation.

The 1972 edition of the Program included the target date, Fiscal 1974, within its statement of the above sub-objective. The date is deleted from the statement here. A new target date is given below. The position is now titled Planning and Evaluation Specialist.

Target Date: Fiscal 1976 (for filling the position)

p. 112 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL II, GOAL II):

To evaluate the staff organization of the Library Commission and reorganize where feasible in order to provide more effective management in relation to the agency's role of planning and coordinating statewide library development.

This was basically accomplished in Fiscal 1973, although such evaluation and reorganization should remain a continuing process as needed. The chart on p.20 shows the major services and key positions, effective beginning in Fiscal 1974. A more complete chart showing all regular positions has been developed, but is not included here. The position of Associate Director, vacant in 1972 and 1973, has been eliminated.

p. 113 SUB-OBJECTIVE I (OBJECTIVE I, SUB-GOAL II, GOAL II):

To create two new positions of Assistant Directors: (1) Library Operations and (2) Library Development and employ qualified persons to assume the responsibility for these two areas of service.

The above statement of this sub-objective includes two changes from the 1972 statement: (1) "Library Operations" replaces the term, "Public Service" and (2) the phrase "in 1973" is deleted.

The reorganization of the Library Commission work elements so that each comes under one of two divisions, Library Operations and Library Development, was accomplished as shown in the chart on p. 20.

The position of Assistant Director, Library Development Division, was filled in Fiscal 1973. The Assistant Director for Library Operations is being recruited now and should be employed early in Fiscal 1974.

p. 114 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL II, GOAL II):

To employ qualified personnel to render special services in the following areas of responsibility...

The 1972 list of positions that completed this statement has been changed to read as follows:

1.	Public Information Specialist	Fiscal 1974 (position has been filled)
2, 3, and 4:	Personnel Development Specialist Management and Administration Specialist Information and Referral Services Consultant	Two in Fiscal 1974, the third in Fiscal 1976, according to availability of qualified applicants and circumstances affecting priority of need.
5.	Planning and Evaluation Specialist	Fiscal 1976
6.	Interlibrary Cooperation Coordinator	Fiscal 1976
7.	Service to the Disadvantaged Consultant	Fiscal 1976

The position responsible for "State and Federal Programs" according to the 1972 statement is now titled Grants Coordinator. This new position and two other new positions proposed in 1972, Consultants respectively for Adult Services and for Work with Children and Young People, are tabled for now but may be rescheduled later.

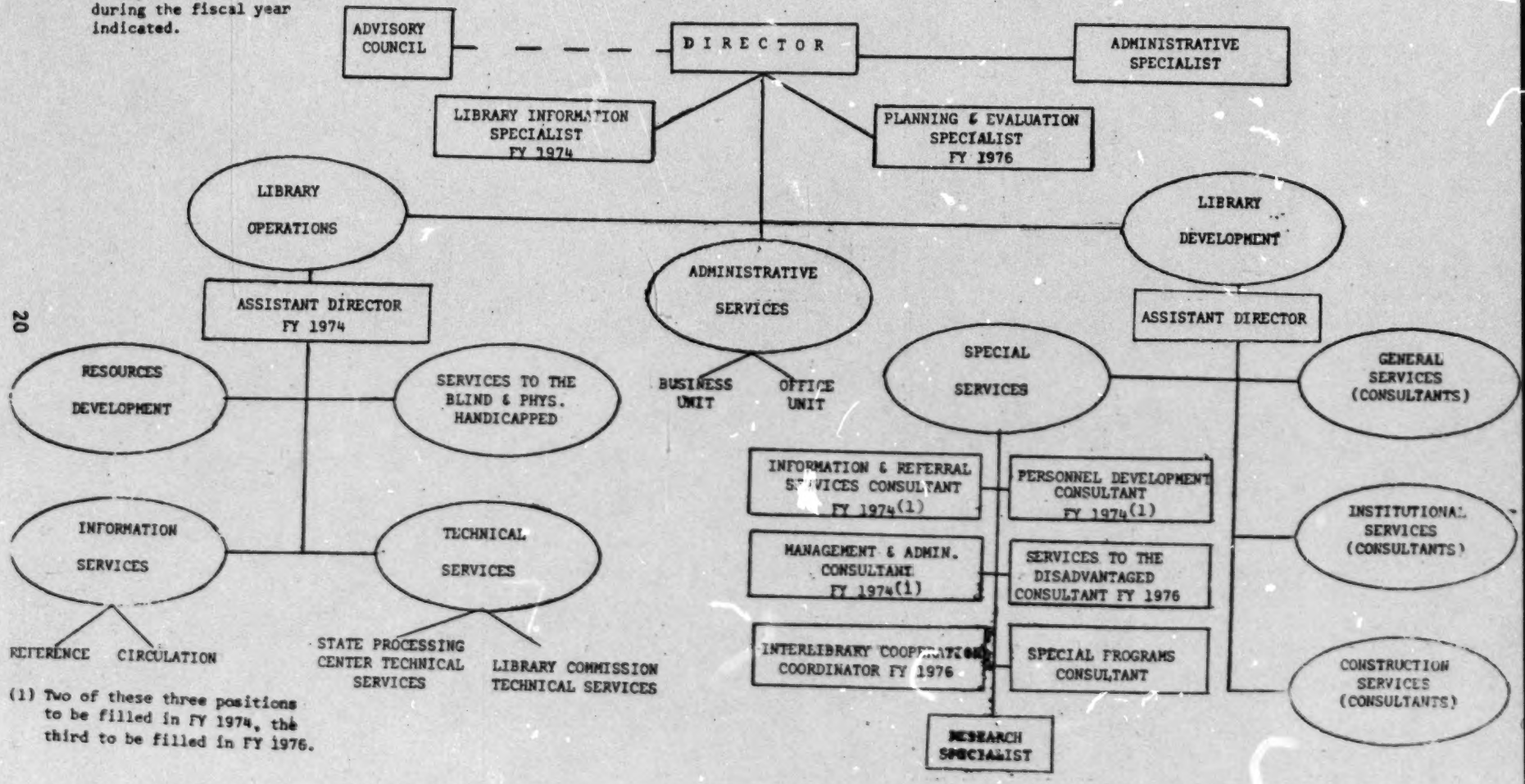
p. 115 PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART, MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION

The chart in the 1972 document is superseded by the new organization chart on p. 20 of this supplement, except for the relationship of the People, Legislature, Governor, and Board of Commissioners.

NOTE: A date after a position title (e.g. FY 1974) indicates that the position is now vacant but is expected to be filled during the fiscal year indicated.

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

FY 1974 - 1976



(1) Two of these three positions to be filled in FY 1974, the third to be filled in FY 1976.

pp.117-118 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL V, GOAL II):

To encourage counties to join together for the purpose of forming larger units of service by awarding multi-county libraries per capita grants.

The 1972 document proposed that per capita grants to multi-county libraries be discontinued beginning with Fiscal 1974 in favor of special demonstration grants, including the proposed demonstration of adequate library service through interlibrary cooperation in one district.

However, the multi-county per capita grants will now be extended through Fiscal 1974 at the rate of 5¢ per capita to answer the need for more phase-out time.

It is proposed here that the per capita grants be definitely discontinued beginning with Fiscal 1975.

Target Date: Fiscal 1975 (for discontinuation of the general program of per capita grants to multi-county library systems)

p. 119 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL V, GOAL II):

To award personnel grants to library systems meeting the eligibility requirements for staff improvement in an effort to improve the quality of service offered at the local level.

Fiscal 1973 was the first year of the present permanent state personnel grants program. Funds appropriated by the 1972 State Legislature were paying the full salaries and retirement benefits for 77 professional positions as of June 30, 1973. These positions were in 31 out of the state's 52 public library administrative units which had adopted the required classification and pay plan for all of their professional personnel (not just those with salaries paid by the state) and met the other eligibility requirements of the program. (See the 1972 document for details).

The 1973 State Legislature again funded the program for Fiscal 1974, with 32 public library administrative units now eligible. The estimated amounts of the grants per library for Fiscal 1974 range from $9,711 to $114,347. The state total is $835,594. The libraries included and the amounts to be paid are listed in the Annual Program for Fiscal 1974.

Altogether, the impact of the program in Fiscal 1974 is expected to be approximately 10 more qualified professional librarians added to local library staffs and approximately 225 librarians in the 32 libraries benefiting from the provision that all professional personnel must be paid according to their qualifications and position levels as stated in the classification and pay plan required for eligibility.

p. 120 SUB-OBJECTIVE 1 (OBJECTIVE I, SUB-GOAL VI, GOAL II):

To request of the State Legislature funds for the construction of a building to house all operations of the Mississippi Library Commission.

In the 1972 Program the statement of this sub-objective included the target date, 1973, now omitted from its restatement here.

The request was made, unsuccessfully, in Fiscal 1973. It will be made again in Fiscal 1974 or thereafter if necessary.

Target Date: Fiscal 1974

pp. 120-125 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL VI, GOAL II):

To promote, assist in planning, and expedite the improvement of public library facilities with funds available through the Library Services and Construction Act, 1970, Title II, and/or through other sources as funds are made available for construction purposes.

Changes to be made: p. 121: line 6: "Thirty-two towns in Mississippi have applications with the Library Commission for library"; line 22: add Revenue Sharing; p. 122: delete Waynesboro, Sardis, Magnolia. Add the following:

Town	Application Date	Library Size	Local Funds Needed	Federal Funds	Total
Jackson (Mall Branch)	3-24-72	14,000	$ 171,600	$ 257,400	$ 429,000
Jackson (Hwy. 80 Branch)	3-24-72	9,000	104,800	157,200	262,000
Monticello	4-4-72	5,000	52,240	78,360	130,600
Pearl	6-30-72	15,000	180,000	270,000	450,000
Greenwood	10-31-72	20,000	240,000	360,000	600,000
GRAND [illegible]LS (Entire list)			$2,177,904	$3,266,856	$5,444,760

p. 124 Advance plan years one year (1974 through 1978)

Delete Sardis, Waynesboro, Magnolia; add $20,000 of Federal funds for Newton.

p. 125 Add the following:

Towns Trying to Fund New Libraries (without applications for LSCA funds)

Town	Total Funds Needed
Taylorsville	$ 97,500
Oxford	492,040
Artesia	83,600
Crawford	83,600
Caledonia	83,600
Lucedale	96,320
Lumberton	83,600
Wiggins	128,480
Weir	83,600
Polkville	74,300
Orange Grove (community)	210,800
	$1,517,440

Progress toward achievement of this objective was slowed in Fiscal 1973 when the amount of LSCA Title II funds authorized was not released. However, the Construction Department of the state agency has continued to work with local libraries on building projects already under way and within the limited LSCA funds available and to assist them in the search for other sources of funds, including local revenue sharing.

When the statistical data in the Program are updated as planned in the fall of 1974 following receipt of annual reports from the state's public libraries in October and returns from the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey of libraries of all types, a tentative analysis of the total situation in the state's libraries as to the need for availability of adequate facilities will be attempted.

CHAPTER VIII

AWARENESS OF LIBRARIES AND THEIR POTENTIAL

GOAL III: To create an active awareness of the available and potential materials and services that can be provided through libraries.

* * * \

This objective is continued, but the target date for a bookmobile tour to demonstrate services to the blind and physically handicapped is postponed from Fiscal 1974 to Fiscal 1975.

p. 128 SUB-OBJECTIVE I (OBJECTIVE V, SUB-GOAL II, GOAL III):

A librarian with special qualifications on the staff of the district resource and service center to plan and direct such programs (innovative programs for creating more awareness of libraries and their potential) throughout the district.

This objective pertains to staffing of the proposed demonstration of adequate library service on a district-wide basis. The target date for employment of this librarian is therefore changed from Fiscal 1974 to Fiscal 1975, in line with the change of date for beginning the demonstration.

p. 128 SUB-OBJECTIVE II (OBJECTIVE V, SUB-GOAL II, GOAL III):

At least two staff members whose main responsibility will be to go out into communities and rural areas as communicators, mingling with individuals and groups in an effort to mediate between their needs and concerns and the actual and potential services of the libraries in the district.

This objective also was written into the 1972 document for staffing of the proposed district-wide demonstration of adequate total library service. The target date for that purpose is postponed from Fiscal 1975 to Fiscal 1976.

However, such communicators are equally important for the outreach required if information and referral services such as those proposed are to connect effectively with the persons most needing them.

CHAPTER IX

SERVICE TO THE SPECIAL SEGMENTS OF THE STATE'S POPULATION

GOAL IV: To seek and adequately provide materials and services that are relevant to special segments of the state's population.

* *

pp.130-131 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL I, GOAL IV):

To strengthen and expand through the Library Commission service to the residents of all state institutions.

This objective is continued as in the 1972 document. However, the Fiscal 1973 target date for initiating service in the Natchez Charity Hospital was not met and is postponed to Fiscal 1974.

The Fiscal 1974 target date for initiating service at the North Mississippi Retardation Center is postponed to Fiscal 1975.

A new activity begun in Fiscal 1973 is the group bibliotherapy program at the Mississippi State Hospital, led by a consultant from the Library Commission. Short stories or other short items chosen for effectiveness in stimulating discussion are read to groups of mentally ill patients who rarely or never communicate otherwise, with surprisingly successful results in terms of patient participation. While still considered experimental, the program is expected to continue and develop.

pp.131-132 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL I, GOAL IV) and its SUB-OBJECTIVE I:

These objectives concerned with development of service to persons confined in other than state institutions are continued. The target date range for demonstration of such service within ~~the~~ proposed district demonstration is changed from Fiscal 1975-1977 to Fiscal 1975-1978.

pp.132-133 SUB-GOAL II (GOAL IV):

To extend and improve library service to all eligible blind and physically handicapped Mississippians.

The following report (pp. 27-28), compiled by the Head of the Library for Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a department of the Library Commission, summarizes the changes and corrections made in the 1972 document.

LONG-RANGE PROGRAM

Revisions Relating to

Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

May, 1973

P. 22 Paragraph 3 - "The department has approximately 11,870 books in all formats." This has been increased to approximately 26,000 books in all formats. "At the end of June, 1970, the department reported 1,529 blind readers and 1,075 physically handicapped readers." Currently the department has 1,902 blind and 118 physically handicapped individual readers and an estimated 120 blind and 630 physically handicapped readers in institutions. (The original report figures for Fiscal 1971 were based on a survey of institutions showing 19 readers per institution. All libraries serving the handicapped have been instructed to use an estimate of 10 readers per institution in reporting to the Library of Congress.)

p. 28 LIBRARY PLANNING AND THE POPULATION

In the breakdown on information concerning Mississippi's population we have the figures on blindness. We are trying to locate a reasonable figure to quote for the physically handicapped who are eligible for our service.

P. 127 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL II, GOAL III):

Target Date for Forming State Task Force for Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped: Fiscal 1975

p. 128 OBJECTIVE IV (SUB-GOAL II, GOAL III):

Target Date: Bookmobile tour to demonstrate services to the blind and physically handicapped: Fiscal 1975

P. 132 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL II, GOAL IV): Change to the following:

Increase the number of patrons served directly through their public libraries from 2,006 at the end of Fiscal 1973 to 3,968 in Fiscal 1978.

p. 132 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL II, GOAL IV): Change to the following:

Increase the number of patrons served through institutions from 820 served through 82 institutions at the end of Fiscal 1973 to 1,110 served through 111 institutions in Fiscal 1978.

(Now basing figures on Library of Congress average of 10 patrons per institution instead of 1971 questionnaire results of 23 patrons per institution. Ten per institution is probably more realistic in the long run.)

Criteria: Service to be measured by ALA Standards for Library Services for the Blind and Visually Handicapped. (Incorrect title on present Long-Range Program)

p. 133 Activities for Implementation:

1. Change target date to Fiscal 1975.
2. Change target date to coincide with first active year of Planning and Development District demonstration. (1975-1976)
3. Change target date to coincide with first active year of Planning and Development District demonstration. (1975-1976)
4. Change "are working toward the construction of" to "have under construction".
5. The new Library of Congress program of providing submasters of recorded books to libraries serving the handicapped requires the capability for large scale cassette duplication. Volunteer original taping of materials not otherwise available needs significant expansion to fill patrons' needs, with duplicates made as necessary.

   Target date for high speed cassette duplication: Fiscal 1975.
6. Service could be improved to the handicapped by supplying them with additional reading materials to supplement those available from the Library of Congress, including large print books and magazines, spoken records, and commercial cassette books in larger numbers. Provision of magnifiers and enlargers would also meet a need.

   (New activity inserted as no. 5. Original no. 5 moved to no. 6 position.)

p. 133 SUB-GOAL III (GOAL IV):

To develop effective library and information services to meet the needs of disadvantaged persons in both urban and rural areas of Mississippi.

To be continued generally as described in the 1972 document.

p. 134 OBJECTIVE I (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

To continue the two present state grants to public libraries for programs for the disadvantaged at least through Fiscal 1973 to allow time for full development and evaluation of these programs.

The two state grants were continued through Fiscal 1973.

Program 1, the Tombigbee Regional Library-Amory project for placing portable libraries in disadvantaged homes with children below their grade level in reading skill, will be continued in Fiscal 1974 in modified and expanded form.

Program 2, the joint project of Sunflower and Bolivar county libraries to work through existing agencies concerned with the culturally and economically deprived in bringing library services to the disadvantaged, will be continued on the basis of local support in Fiscal 1974. It is hoped that local library budget increases now under discussion will be adequate to cover all essential elements of this program.

Other programs designed to provide special services to the disadvantaged are still under study by the Library Commission and will be described in the Annual Program for Fiscal 1974 when this is completed. These will be related to Right To Read, Adult Basic Education, Early Childhood Education, and similar efforts.

It is hoped that it will still be possible to carry out the special proposal submitted by the Library Commission to the U. S. Office of Education, described on p. 13 of this supplement, under OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL IV, GOAL I): A Proposal to Design and Demonstrate Public Library Information and Referral Service to the Disadvantaged in a Predominantly Rural Area. This demonstration will be conducted in Bolivar and Sunflower counties if and when funded, hopefully in Fiscal 1974.

The two proposals for information and referral service to the elderly (persons 60 years of age and older), also described on pp. 13-14 of this supplement have many disadvantaged in their target groups, due to minority culture and economic and educational handicaps.

p. 136 OBJECTIVE II (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

To give priority in the studies and planning proposed in Chapter VI to library service to the disadvantaged.

The target dates for this objective are postponed from Fiscal 1973-1974 to 1974-1975.

p. 137 SUB-OBJECTIVE I (OBJECTIVE III, SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

At least one workshop for public librarians and trustees concerned with identification of and meeting the needs of the disadvantaged, sponsored by the Library Commission and coordinated with the projected library self-studies.

Library Commission sponsored workshops were eliminated from the 1973 schedule due to curtailment of funds from LSCA that had been counted on for this purpose. The Workshop Planning Committee of the Public Library Section of the Mississippi Library Association has recommended to the Library Commission that it sponsor a workshop in May, 1974 specifically on services to special groups, including the disadvantaged, the aged, and the physically handicapped.

New Target Date: Fiscal 1974 (workshop on library service to the disadvantaged and other special groups)

p. 138 SUB-OBJECTIVE II (OBJECTIVE III, SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

Preparation by the Library Commission of a manual on library work with the disadvantaged in Mississippi.

Target Date for Completing Manual: Fiscal 1976 (postponed from Fiscal 1974)

It is expected that the librarian occupying the new position of Consultant for Service to the Disadvantaged, scheduled for Fiscal 1976, will be responsible for coordinating the development and production of this manual and represent the state agency in offering assistance in this field to the libraries of the state.

p. 138 OBJECTIVE IV (SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

The target date range for this objective, concerned with Library Commission sponsorship of a demonstration of public library service to the disadvantaged as part of the projected cooperative library district demonstration, is postponed from Fiscal 1974-1977 to 1975-1978.

p. 138 SUB-OBJECTIVE I (OBJECTIVE V, SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

A consultant for service to the disadvantaged on the Library Commission staff.

The target date for this position is postponed from Fiscal 1975 to Fiscal 1976. The relationship of this position to the new organizational structure of the Library Commission is shown in the chart on p. 20.

p. 139 SUB-OBJECTIVE II (OBJECTIVE V, SUB-GOAL III, GOAL IV):

This sub-objective pertaining to provision of special staff in the proposed cooperative district demonstration to develop innovative programs for creating more awareness of libraries and their potential for service to the disadvantaged is moved forward to the new time table for the demonstration.

SUB-GOAL IV (GOAL IV): (New as of Fiscal 1974)

To develop effective library and information services to meet the special needs of elderly persons in both urban and rural areas of Mississippi.

It is hoped that it will be possible to begin one or more of the programs previously discussed for information and referral services to the elderly in Fiscal 1974. Such information and referral services should be coordinated with the same for other special groups and the general public in long-range planning.

Target Date: Fiscal 1974 (to begin demonstration of information and referral service to the elderly in cooperation with the Mississippi Council on Aging)